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Correction: Fourth co-defendant pled, five others charged

Monrovia Man, Others Plead in Motorcycle Theft Ring

Three men accused of orchestrating a theft ring that purportedly stole dozens of motorcycles for resale were convicted late yesterday, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced today.

Deputy District Attorney Alex Karkanen said Felipe Galicia, 40, of Monrovia, and Daniel Hernandez, 22, of El Monte, pleaded no contest to one count each of unlawful vehicle identification number activity and receiving stolen property, motor vehicle.

Co-defendant Victor Manuel Coca, 45, of Los Angeles, pleaded no contest to chop shop operation and receiving stolen property, motor vehicle. In addition, each defendant admitted the allegation that the crimes involved the taking of more than \$150,000.

Judge Carlos Uranga of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Alhambra Branch, sentenced Galicia to six years in state prison. Coca was sentenced to five years in prison and Hernandez was sentenced to a four-year state prison term.

In addition, a fourth co-defendant, Richard Dean Campa, 43, pleaded no contest to two counts of receiving stolen property, motor vehicle. Campa is due to be sentenced on May 6, in Department 5. He faces three years in state prison.

The prosecutor said five others are each charged with 32 counts of receiving stolen property in the same case. The remaining defendants each face a maximum prison sentence of 20 years, eight months.

Galicia, the alleged mastermind, with Hernandez and Coca had a number of crews working for them that would purportedly scout locations to steal motorcycles. Afterward, the men are accused of changing the vehicle identification numbers of the stolen motorcycles for resale, according to the prosecutor.

A three-month investigation by the Task Force for Regional Auto Theft Prevention – comprised of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, the Los Angeles Police Department and the California Highway Patrol, among others – led authorities to the alleged theft ring.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Annually, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office</u> prosecutes more than 60,000 felonies and 140,000 misdemeanor crimes.